

engine 10 of the vehicle 1 is equal to or greater than the reference temperature, it is judged that the high efficiency recovery condition is satisfied, while if the water temperature of the internal combustion engine 10 is lower than a predetermined temperature, it is judged that the high efficiency recovery condition is not satisfied.

[0108] As explained above, it is possible to predict if the vehicle 1 will be driven over a long distance or will be driven over a short distance, based on the time elapsed from startup of the internal combustion engine 10. On the other hand, the water temperature of the internal combustion engine 10 changes in accordance with the time elapsed from cold start of the internal combustion engine 10. The water temperature becomes higher, as the elapsed time from cold start becomes longer. Therefore, it is possible to judge if the vehicle is being driven over a long distance, based on whether the water temperature of the internal combustion engine 10 is exceeding the reference temperature set for each user.

[0109] Therefore, in the third example, it is judged whether the high efficiency recovery condition is satisfied, based on whether the water temperature of the internal combustion engine 10 is over the reference temperature set for each user. At this time, the reference temperature for judging the high efficiency recovery condition is set based on the past history of the vehicle 1. Specifically, the reference temperature is, for example, set to a minimum temperature at which the possibility of the vehicle 1 being driven over a long distance of equal to or greater than a reference distance is equal to or greater than a certain ratio from the past history.

[0110] Above, examples of the high efficiency recovery conditions were explained, but the high efficiency recovery conditions are not limited to these examples. Various conditions may be included in accordance with the objective, application, etc.

[0111] Note that, when the reference distance, reference water temperature, reference time, etc. in the high efficiency recovery condition are set manually by the user, these are set for example through the HMI 42. In this case, for example, the display control part 33 may also display a user interface for setting the values of the high efficiency recovery condition through the HMI 42. The user of the vehicle 1 can set the values of the high efficiency recovery condition through the user interface.

[0112] Flow Chart

[0113] FIG. 3 is a flow chart showing the control routine performed by the recovery control part 32 of the ECU 31 according to the present embodiment. The illustrated control routine is performed at constant time intervals.

[0114] First, at step S11, it is judged if the internal combustion engine 10 is being operated. If it is judged that the internal combustion engine 10 is not being operated, exhaust gas cannot flow into the CO₂ recovery device 20, therefore the control routine proceeds to step S15 where the operation of the CO₂ recovery device 20 is prohibited. On the other hand, if at step S11 it is judged that the internal combustion engine 10 is being operated, the control routine proceeds to step S12.

[0115] At step S12, it is judged if the amount of recovery of CO₂ at the CO₂ recovery device 20 is smaller than the limit amount which can be recovered at the CO₂ recovery device 20. The amount of recovery of CO₂ at the CO₂ recovery device 20 is, for example, calculated based on the amount of supply of fuel to the internal combustion engine

10 and the amount of supply of exhaust gas to the CO₂ recovery device 20. The amount of supply of exhaust gas to the CO₂ recovery device 20 is, for example, calculated based on the engine rotational speed and the electric power supplied to the suction pump 22. Note that, the amount of recovery of CO₂ at the CO₂ recovery device 20 may be calculated based on the concentration of CO₂ detected by the CO₂ concentration sensor (not shown) provided at the upstream side of the CO₂ recovery device 20 and the amount of supply of exhaust gas to the CO₂ recovery device 20.

[0116] If at step S12 it is judged that the amount of recovery of CO₂ at the CO₂ recovery device 20 is equal to or greater than the limit amount, the CO₂ recovery device 20 cannot recover CO₂ any more, therefore the control routine proceeds to step S15 where the operation of the CO₂ recovery device 20 is prohibited. On the other hand, if at step S12 it is judged that the amount of recovery of CO₂ at the CO₂ recovery device 20 is less than the limit amount, the control routine proceeds to step S13.

[0117] At step S13, it is judged if the high efficiency recovery condition is satisfied. Specifically, the recovery control part 32 judges that the high efficiency recovery condition is satisfied if the predicted driving distance to the destination input to the navigation system is equal to or greater than a reference distance. Further, the recovery control part 32 judges that the high efficiency recovery condition has been satisfied if the time elapsed from startup of the internal combustion engine 10 is equal to or greater than a reference time. Alternatively, the recovery control part 32 judges that the high efficiency recovery condition has been satisfied if the water temperature detected by the water temperature sensor 43 after cold startup of the internal combustion engine 10 becomes equal to or greater than the reference temperature. Note that, at step S13, the recovery control part 32 may judge that the high efficiency recovery condition has been satisfied when any two conditions among these conditions (for example, the predicted driving distance is equal to or greater than the reference distance and the time elapsed from startup of the internal combustion engine 10 is equal to or greater than the reference time) or all three of the conditions have been satisfied.

[0118] If at step S13 it is judged that the high efficiency recovery condition is satisfied, the control routine proceeds to step S14. At step S14, operation of the CO₂ recovery device 20 is permitted and the control routine is ended.

[0119] In the present embodiment, when at step S14 the operation of the CO₂ recovery device 20 is permitted, the CO₂ recovery device 20 is operated and accordingly the suction pump 22 and cooling part 23 are operated. On the other hand, when at step S15 the operation of the CO₂ recovery device 20 is prohibited, the CO₂ recovery device 20 is stopped and accordingly the suction pump 22 and cooling part 23 are stopped.

[0120] Note that, after step S14, the display control part 33 may display an indicator showing that the CO₂ recovery device 20 is operating, through the HMI 42. Similarly, after step S15, the display control part 33 may display an indicator showing that the CO₂ recovery device 20 has stopped, through the HMI 42.

[0121] Further, for example, the user input part (that is, the HMI 42), may receive an operation prohibit instruction prohibiting operation of the CO₂ recovery device 20 input by the user through a user interface. In this case, for example, the recovery control part 32 may prohibit operation of the